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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - POPE'S COMMENTS

Block Quotes

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Sunday, September 17, 2006

-- -- Editor-in-chief of the pro-government Arabic daily Al-Seyassah  
Ahmed Al-Jarallah penned on the front page a piece titled "A  
Dangerous Papal Error" (9/17):

"We do not believe we want to ignite a fire between people of  
various religions and sects. We care for what keeps us united as  
believers. Almighty Allah created the universe and we should not  
concentrate on our difference with others, especially as Islam  
teaches us to coexist with people of other faith in harmony and  
provide them with security."

-- Salafi Dr. Wael Al-Hasawi inquired in moderate Arabic daily  
Al-Rai Al-Aam under the title "Is This the Moderation the Pope  
Promised Us?" (9/17):

"Our question to the Pope is, if Islam was spread by the edge of the  
sword, then why is it that people over whom Muslims ruled converted  
and adhere to Islam until this today and spread the religion among  
other people?"

-- "Will Secularists Attack the Pope's Statement?" was the title of  
Ahmed Mohamed Al-Fahd's piece in moderate Arabic daily Al-Watan in  
which he contended (9/17):

"Of course no secularist will write a single article defending the  
prophet, peace be upon him. I bet that none of them will write even  
a small article attacking the pope for what he said or even point  
out his mistake. This is because His Holiness, to them, can do no  
wrong."

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